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United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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October 23, 1985

The Honorable William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Bill:

Thanks for your letter of October 23, 1985, setting forth your plans relative to development of a National Intelligence Strategy. We want to assure you that nothing that we presently intend to accomplish through the Conference Report on the FY 1986 Intelligence Authorization is inconsistent with your plans. In fact, what we are doing is supporting your plans by specifying in the Conference, to quote your letter: "general objectives and goals in the overall strategy and ... factors which will shape the development of any plan ...".

At today's Committee meeting, Senator Boren stated in simple terms the technical language which we are seeking for the Conference Report. We thought it would be worthwhile to share with you Senator Boren's perspective on what we are seeking with our language in the Conference Report:

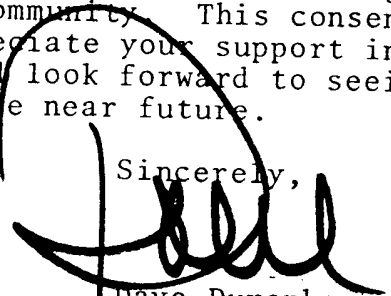
- o We need to understand the legitimate needs of intelligence consumers and policymakers of the United States Government and the goals you establish for the Intelligence Community to meet these needs;
- o We need to see your programs, with justification identified by lead agency, to achieve the goals you have identified. We need to understand which programs you are requesting full authorization and funding, those which you are requesting partial authorization and funding, and those which, in the best of all worlds the Director feels need to meet his needs but neither current authorization or funding is requested. We would like to know why each program is included on each list.

The Honorable William J. Casey
October 23, 1985
Page Two

While the Conference Report language is a bit more technical and specific on how best to report this information to us, our guidelines for the National Intelligence Strategy are not micromanagement on the part of Congress. It gives you a free hand to get on with articulating an integrated strategy for U.S. intelligence.

Bill, we have recognized from the start that any effort to develop a National Intelligence Strategy required the commitment of Members of the two Oversight Committees and the Intelligence Community. This consensus has now been achieved. We appreciate your support in helping to build this consensus, and look forward to seeing your first cut at a strategy in the near future.

Sincerely,



Dave Durenberger
Chairman



Patrick Leahy
Vice Chairman

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